

CLAIMS

1. A vaccine composition comprising at least one group A Streptococcal antigen and a proteosome adjuvant.
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2. A vaccine composition according to claim 1 wherein the antigen comprises an *S. pyogenes* M protein peptide.
- 10 3. A vaccine composition according to claim 1 wherein the antigen comprises a fragment of the M protein from the C-terminal region of between 6 and 25 amino acids in length.
- 15 4. A vaccine composition according to claim 1 wherein the antigen has the sequence ASREAKKQVEQKALE.
5. A vaccine composition according to claim 2 wherein the antigen is flanked by amino acid sequences to maintain helical folding of the antigen.
- 20 6. A vaccine composition according to claim 5 wherein the peptide antigen has the sequence KQAEDKVKASREAKKQVEKALEQLEDKVK.
7. A vaccine composition according to claim 1 wherein the antigen is selected from an MtsA peptide or a protein H peptide.
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8. A vaccine composition according to claim 1 wherein the antigenic peptide further comprises a C- or N-terminal hydrophobic moiety for insertion of the antigenic peptide into proteosome adjuvant vesicles.
- 30 9. A vaccine composition according to claim 1 for parenteral or oral administration.

10. A vaccine composition according to claim 9 for intranasal administration.

5 11. A vaccine composition according to claim 1 for use in the treatment or prophylaxis of a group A Streptococcal infection in an individual.

12. A vaccine composition according to claim 11 wherein the composition is administered intranasally to the individual.

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13. A vaccine composition according to claim 11 wherein administration of the composition to the individual induces a mucosal immune response.

14. A vaccine composition according to claim 11, wherein administration 15 of the vaccine composition induces a serum immune response.

15. A vaccine composition according to claim 11 wherein the vaccine composition is administered intranasally to the individual and treatment or prophylaxis of group A Streptococcal infection is produced via reduction or 20 prevention of bacterial colonisation of the throat.

16. A method of treatment or prophylaxis of group A Streptococcal infection in an individual comprising administering a vaccine composition according to claim 1 to the individual.

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17. A method according to claim 16 wherein said vaccine composition is administered intranasally to said individual.

18. A method according to claim 17 wherein the treatment or prophylaxis 30 group A Streptococcal infection is produced via prevention or reduction of bacterial colonisation of the throat.